

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-13 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00
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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
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AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 0179

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM CY TU EI
SUBJECT: COUNCIL OF EUROPE ON TURKISH VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS
IN CYPRUS

REF: (A) STATE 014657, (B) DUBLIN 059

1. IN THE COURSE OF A ROUTINE MEETING WITH MFA
COUNSELLOR MACKERNAN WE DISCUSSED CYPRUS AND HAD AN
OCCASION TO MENTION TO HIM THE POINTS IN REFTEL A.
MACKERNAN LISTENED CAREFULLY AND PROMISED THAT OUR THOUGHTS
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WOULD "BE MADE KNOWN" TO THE OTHER EIGHT AND TO
SELECTED OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

2. HE REPORTED THAT THE IRISH HAD FURTHER "INFORMAL" TALKS
WITH THE TURKS IN STRASBOURG JANUARY 12. SEAN O HEIDEAIN,
IRISH REP IN STRASBOURG, REPORTS THAT THE TURKS WERE
"VERY TRUCULENT" AND THREATENED THAT IF THEY WERE

"HUMILIATED" AT STRASBOURG, THEY WERE PREPARED TO LEAVE THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE AND STAND ON THEIR OWN FEET. THE TURKS THEN MADE A RATHER FORMAL REQUEST THAT UNDER THE RULES OF PROCEDURE THEY WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST A THREE MONTH DELAY FROM THE TIME OF THE FEBRUARY COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING IN ORDER TO PREPARE A 150 PAGE REBUTTAL. THE REBUTTAL, ACCORDING TO THE TURKS, WOULD CONSIST OF DOCUMENTATION OF GREEK VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS. WHILE TAKING THIS TACK THE TURKS ALSO MAINTAIN THAT THE COMPLAINT HAS NO VALIDITY SINCE THE CYPRUS GOVERNMENT HAS NO VALIDITY. MACKERNAN NOTED THAT AFTER THE "INFORMAL" TALKS IN STRASBOURG THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR HERE MADE A DEMARCHE, ALSO REQUESTING A THREE MONTH DELAY.

3. MACKERNAN FURTHER REPORTED THAT THE EVRMEDITERRANEAN GROUP, MEETING IN LONDON, MADE THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS CONCERNING THE COUNCIL/CYPRUS AFFAIR:

-- THE NINE ARE STRONG AND UNANIMOUS IN REJECTING THE TURKISH CLAIM OF INVALIDITY.

-- ALL ARE IN FAVOR OF GIVING THE TURKS SOME TIME TO PREPARE A REBUTTAL, BUT THERE WAS DISAGREEMENT ON HOW MUCH TIME (THREE MONTHS WOULD DELAY CONSIDERATION UNTIL AFTER THE APRIL 27 MEETING OF MINISTERS, THUS EFFECTIVELY DELAYING IT UNTIL FALL).

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-- ANY TURKISH REBUTTAL WOULD HAVE TO BE RELEVANT TO THE COMMISSION'S REPORT. CHARGES OF GREEK ATRO TIES WOULD BE IRRELEVANT.

-- THE MATTER MUST COME UP AT THE FEBRUARY COUNCIL OF MINISTER MEETING, ESPECIALLY NOW THAT IT HAS LEAKED.

4. MACKERNAN SAID THAT THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS WERE REFERRED TO THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING TODAY IN LONDON, AND THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS WOULD HAVE TO DECIDE ON THE TIME LIMIT. IN HIS OPINION THE GERMANS WOULD OPT FOR A FULL THREE MONTHS BUT THE FRENCH WOULD BE STRONG TO GET IT ON THE AGENDA OF THE APRIL 27 MEETING. HE WAS SURE THAT THE DIRECTORS WOULD GIVE STRONG CONSIDERATION TO THE MESSAGE RELAYED IN REF A. ALSO, THE DIRECTORS WOULD HAVE TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE NOW WIDESPREAD LEAKS, WHICH MOST IN THE EC VIEW AS A CALCULATED GREEK MOVE TO GET THE COUNCIL TO ACT. CURLEY

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